

Climate Lens Assessment Requirements

In addition to the Provincial Climate Lens, which is intended to ensure that all projects appropriately consider and incorporate climate change into their design and implementation, additional federal requirements also apply to certain projects under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.

The Federal Climate Lens assessments are a federal requirement that **must be completed for applicable projects during the application/design phase in order to obtain federal approval**. Municipal Infrastructure will identify any applications that may require them, and notify any applicants that may need to provide additional information and/or assessments.

There are two components to the federal Climate Lens:

- A **Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Mitigation Assessment**; and
- A **Climate Change Resilience Assessment**.

Through these assessments, applicants will need to assess whether their projects will increase or decrease greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, applicants will need to consider ways to incorporate structural or system changes that will help their new infrastructure withstand the potential impacts of climate change and continue to perform reliably. Over time, the goal is to have climate change considerations become a core part of Canada's infrastructure planning.

Costs associated with conducting Climate Lens assessments are eligible expenditures under the program, but only for those projects that are ultimately approved by Canada.

The Climate Lens requirements apply to projects submitted under climate change-specific program streams, as well as all projects under any program stream above a certain cost threshold.

The table below identifies when and which Climate Lens assessments are required, based on program stream and estimated total eligible project costs:

Program Stream	GHG Mitigation Assessment	Climate Change Resilience Assessment
Green Infrastructure: Climate Change Mitigation sub-stream	All projects* <u>(Demonstrates alignment with sub-stream outcome)</u>	If total eligible project costs are \$10M or greater
Green Infrastructure: Adaptation, Resilience and Disaster Mitigation sub-stream	If total eligible project costs are \$10M or greater	All projects <u>(Demonstrates alignment with sub-stream outcome)</u>
All other streams and sub-streams	If total eligible project costs are \$10M or greater	If total eligible project costs are \$10M or greater

* Electricity projects that have already completed a GHG emissions assessment for Natural Resources Canada as part of the now closed [Regional Electricity Cooperation and Strategic Infrastructure \(RECSI\) initiative](#) are not required to complete a second assessment and may submit the existing report to satisfy the Climate Lens GHG Mitigation assessments requirement.

GHG Mitigation Assessments

- Intended to measure the anticipated GHG emissions impact of an infrastructure project.
- Must be conducted, or at a minimum validated, by a qualified assessor (i.e. a professional engineer **or** a GHG accounting professional certified under the [ISO 140640-3](#) or [ISO 14065](#) standard).

Climate Change Resilience Assessment

- Intended to employ a risk management approach to anticipate, prevent, withstand, respond to, and recover from a climate change related disruption or impact.
- Must be attested to by a qualified party (i.e. a professional engineer, registered professional planner, or appropriately specialized biologist or hydrologist).

Additional Information and Guidance:

[Backgrounder: Applying a Climate Lens to Infrastructure Projects](#)

[Climate Lens: General Guidance](#)